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THE GULL
MONTHLY BULLETIN

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

Volume 29 San Francisco, California, May, 1947 Number 5

March Field Trip

The appeal of local birds seemed as strong as ever to 39 Audubon Association members and their guests, who met at the entrance to East Bay Regional Park at 10:00 a. m. on March 16. The morning offered an excellent opportunity to renew acquaintanceship with early migrants and to refamiliarize ourselves with birds we too often are prone to ignore by reason of their assured presence. Immediately after meeting at the park entrance, the group began to search the tight matting of cotoneaster shrubs alongside the road for bird occupants. These yielded both Allen and Anna hummers, the latter singing and the former busily buzzing through its "arc dance". White-crowned Sparrows and Spotted Towhees sang from the top twigs, Linnets fed on the upper branches, Bush-tits scattered throughout, while Song Sparrows, Golden-crowned Sparrows, Fox Sparrows, and Brown and Spotted Towhees fed on the ground below. Overhead, from the Monterey pines, the short rolling gurgle of the Purple Finch was heard and the familiar resonant call note of the Red-shafted Flicker.

The group followed these songs down the road leading to Indian Camp. Half of the group went with Donald Heyneman along the upper trail which lead down a fire-break to the small lake below the camp, while Jerry Sedgewick led the other half of the group along the road to the same destination. The Lutescent Warbler proved to be the highlight of the day. Its song echoed and re-echoed from the oaks and chaparral on the valley slopes, giving us ample opportunity to study its habits and learn its song. After circling the lake both groups reassembled at the picnic grounds where well-whetted appetites overpowered the valiant efforts of the birds to hold our attention. After a leisurely lunch the remaining members walked along the pleasant trail following up the outlet to Anza Lake. There the group dispersed, satisfied with having enjoyed the day and having renewed our interest in birds. The observers were in the field from 10:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. There was a high fog until 11:30 a. m. which gradually cleared so that by 2:00 p. m. the sun came out. There was no appreciable wind. The following 35 species were observed.

Great Blue Heron
Scaup (sp.?)
Turkey Vulture
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
California Quail
Anna Hummingbird
Rufous Hummingbird
Allen Hummingbird
Red-shafted Flicker
Downy Woodpecker
Black Phoebe
Western Flycatcher
California Jay
Steller Jay
Plain Titmouse
Bush-tit
Wren-tit
Bewick Wren
Hermit Thrush
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Hutton Vireo
Audubon Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler (Lutescent)
Purple Finch
House Finch
Pine Siskin
Arkansas Goldfinch (Green-backed)
Spotted Towhee
Brown Towhee
Oregon Junco
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow

Thirty four members and nine guests attended.

— Donald Heyneman, *Historian*

April Field Trip

On Sunday, April 13, 1947, Dr. T. Eric Reynolds led the annual field trip to McCoy Ranch. The following 51 species were noted:

Green Heron
Turkey Vulture
Cooper Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Golden Eagle
Sparrow Hawk
California Quail
Killdeer
Mourning Dove
Anna Hummingbird
Red-shafted Flicker
Acorn Woodpecker (California)
Nuttall Woodpecker
Western Kingbird
Black Phoebe
Say Phoebe
Western Flycatcher
California Jay
Yellow-billed Magpie
Plain Titmouse
Bush-tit
White-breasted Nuthatch (Slender-billed)
House Wren
Bewick Wren
California Thrasher
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Western)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Phainopepla
Loggerhead Shrike (California)
Warbling Vireo
Audubon Warbler
Pileolated Warbler
English Sparrow
Western Meadowlark
Red-winged Blackbird
Bullock Oriole
Brewer Blackbird
Cowbird
Western Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak
Calif. Purple Finch
House Finch
Lawrence Goldfinch
Arkansas Goldfinch
Brown Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Oregon Junco
Chipping Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Song Sparrow

The nest and young of the California Thrasher were observed. Bullock Oriole and Lawrence Goldfinch were also noted nesting.

—Ethel Richardson, Historian.

Observations

Allen Hummingbird, March 8; Audubon Warbler, Lutescent Warbler, and House Wren, March 21; Rufous Hummingbird, March 22; El Sobrante, Contra Costa Co., Calif., Mr. Walter W. Bradley.

Cedar Waxwings, March 12, 2030 Franklin Street, San Francisco, Calif.,

Mrs. George T. Kilham.

European Widgeon, March 9, Stow Lake, Golden Gate Park, Mr. Herman V. Leffler.

American Egret, March 22, Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate, Mr. Arthur H. Myer.

New Members

The Audubon Association extends a hearty welcome to Miss Helen Gilliam and Mrs. Ethel Richardson who have rejoined, to Miss Jessie Whitman, new student member, and to Miss Lucy Knox, Mrs. B. W. Stone and Mr. Ralph M. Colcord, new members.

March Meeting

The 354th meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific was held March 13, 1947 in the Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library. Mr. Joseph J. Webb presided.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

At the January meeting of the Board of Directors it was recommended that the senior membership dues be raised to $3.50 and the joint membership dues be raised to $5.50 beginning January, 1948, due to the increased cost of operating and of publishing The Gull.

The recommendation was presented at the February meeting and a vote was taken at the March meeting. It was suggested that the membership of the Association be increased rather than increasing the dues. A request was made for the Association's financial report.

Due to a tie vote it was moved and seconded that a revote be taken at the April meeting.

Mr. Webb suggested that the Audubon Association consider publishing a list of the birds of Lake Merced since such a list is unavailable.

Observations were made by Mr. Arthur H. Myer, Mr. Joseph J. Webb, and Mr. Walter W. Bradley.

Dr. T. Eric Reynolds introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Brighton C. Cain, who discussed early spring migrants of the bay area. Mr. Cain illustrated his talk with skins and whistled songs of birds common to spring. A collection of early bird books and recent publications was shown.

Forty-seven members and guests were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan E. Kirk, Recording Secretary.

April Meeting

The 355th meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific was held on April 10, 1947 in the Oakland Public Museum, Oakland, Calif. President, Dr. T. Eric Reynolds presided.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Dr. Reynolds announced that Miss Mulford, Curator of the museum, has offered the Association two book cases in the main office of the museum as a repository for the books and publications belonging to the association.

Mr. Brighton C. Cain moved that the senior membership dues be raised to

$3.50 and the joint membership dues be raised to $5.50, beginning January, 1948. Mrs. Otis H. Smith seconded the motion. A hand vote was taken with thirteen in favor of the motion, four opposed. Motion carried.

Field observations were made by Mr. Arthur Myer, Mr. Walter W. Bradley, and Mr. Brighton C. Cain.

Dr. Reynolds introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Charles G. Sibley. Mr. Sibley discussed bird behavior, early theories of migration and factors in breeding behavior which may influence migration.

Sixty-seven members and guests were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan E. Kirk, Recording Secretary.

May Meeting

The 356th meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific will be held on Thursday, May 8, at 8:00 p. m., in the Assembly Room of the San Francisco Public Library at Larkin and McAllister Streets. Mr. J. T. Marshall will be the speaker of the evening.

May Field Trip

An extra May field trip will be taken on Sunday, May 11th to Saint Mary's, California. San Francisco members will take the 8:00 a. m. "E" train from the Terminal, getting off at Domingo Avenue, where those with spare room in their cars will meet them at 8:30 a. m. Other cars will leave Tunnel Road and Domingo at 8:30 a. m. or may proceed directly to Saint Mary's. Bring lunch and binoculars. Mr. Arthur H. Myer will lead the field trip.

Monterey Field Trip

On Sunday, May 18, there will be a field trip to Monterey and vicinity. The committee for this trip plans to have member's cars used for transportation. Leaving 22nd & Broadway, Oakland; University & Shattuck, Berkeley; and First St. (west side of Bay Bridge Terminal) San Francisco, at 6:00 a. m. Meeting at the Hopkins Marine Station, in Pacific Grove at 9:30 a. m. (about 125 miles one way). Park cars at first (outside) parking strip. Meet at north (shore) side of building. Do not enter building. Mr. Laidlaw Williams will direct the trip. Contact Mr. Herman V. Leffler (Tw. 4545, Ol. 0270) to make arrangements for transportation. Bring lunch and binoculars.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

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Monthly meetings second Thursday, 8:00 p. m.

Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library, Larkin and McAllister Sts., San Francisco

Membership dues, payable January 1st, $3.00 per year

Student memberships, $1.50 per year Life memberships, $50.00

Subscription, $1.00 per year